



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Kenichi HARUKI et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2625**

Serial No.: **10/678,225**

Examiner: **Sathyanaraya V. Perungavoor**

Filed: **October 6, 2003**

Confirmation Number: **2397**

For: **EXTENSION DEVICE PROVIDING SECURITY FUNCTION**

Attorney Docket Number: **000993A**

Customer Number: **38834**

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop AF (After Final)
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 30, 2005

Sir:

Applicants respond herein to the Office Action mailed August 19, 2005. The period for response thereto is extended by the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time.

Claims 17-19 and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Dickenson et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,631,201, in view of Thomopoulos et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,978,495. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The claims describe an identification-information-acquisition device that has a "carrier unit." Claim 17 specifies that the carrier unit:

moves from a position where said carrier unit is encased in the container portion to a position where said carrier unit is situated outside the container portion.

Claims 18 and 19 depend from claim 17, so they also describe this subject matter. Using similar text, claim 24 describes this feature of the carrier unit as follows: